

CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF PORT COQUITLAM

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Parks & Recreation Committee was held in the Council Chambers on Wednesday, July 17th, 1985, at 4:15 p.m.

In attendance were Alderman Michael Wright and Alderman George Laking.

Also in attendance was K. Janna Taylor, Parks & Recreation Director.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

That the minutes of the meeting of the Parks & Recreation Committee held on Wednesday, July 10th, 1985, be taken as read and adopted.

Item No. 1 Terry Fox Run

The attached letter was received from the Kinsmen. They are requesting that we give consideration to the installation of twenty lamp post flag holders on Laurier Avenue for the Terry Fox Run. The cost of making twenty brand new lamp post flag holders would be \$1,011.00. However, there are thirteen lamp holders at the intersection of Shaughnessy Street and Prairie Avenue and these could be moved to Laurier Avenue, and this would mean that only seven new lamp post flag holders would have to be made. The cost of these thirteen lamp post flag holders and the additional seven new ones, including installation, would be \$725.00.

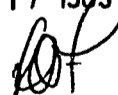
Recommendation:

That we move the thirteen lamp post flag holders from the intersection of Shaughnessy and Prairie to Laurier Avenue and that seven new lamp post flag holders be made, including installation, at a cost of \$725.00. That the money for the project be taken from the Parks unallocated budget.

CARRIED

/2.

JUL 17 1985



Item No. 2 Routley Tennis Courts

Prior to resurfacing there is a need to prepare the surface of the existing courts for painting. We have some weed growth coming through the playing surface, at the location of the posts. We would like to spray Calcide (which is a vegetation killer) at the location of the post, so that when we proceed to resurface, we will not have the possibility of weed growth cracking the surface. Last year we did a similar spraying job on Pitt River Road, from McLean to Pooley prior to re-paving.

Recommendation:

1. That we spray Calcide at Routley Tennis Courts and that the area would be enclosed with snow fencing, tennis court gate locked and the area signed.
2. The Aldermen and Mayor would be contacted in the next few days to ensure that there were no problems with doing the spraying.

CARRIED

Item No. 3 May Day Report

The attached reports were read by the Committee members. It was agreed that there is a need to make a decision on three areas:

1. The date for the 1986 May Day.
2. The parade route for the 1986 May Day.
3. A society to be formed or continue in the same manner.

It was decided to distribute the reports to Council members for review and that a report with recommendations would be sent to the August 12th Council meeting. Helen Fitch will be investigating further the costing of the various other festivals and this will be sent out in the near future to Council members. Helen will be attending the August 12th Council meeting in order to answer questions that Council members may have.

/3.

JUL 17 1985

Recommendation:


That the reports be circulated immediately to Council members with a covering memo indicating the three questions that need to be addressed at the August 12th Council meeting:

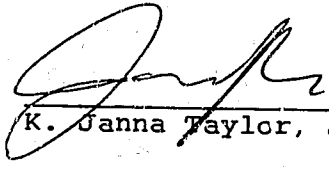
1. The date for the 1986 May Day.
2. The parade route for the 1986 May Day.
3. A society to be formed or continue in the same manner.


CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

  
M.R. Wright, Chairman

  
K. Janna Taylor, Secretary

JUL 17 1985  




**KINSMEN CLUB OF PORT COQUITLAM**

THE ASSOCIATION OF KINSMEN CLUBS  
DISTRICT FIVE  
LOWER MAINLAND ZONE  
P.O. BOX 111  
PORT COQUITLAM, B.C. V3C 3V5

Derrick Hill  
3069 Glen Drive,  
Port Coquitlam, B.C.  
V3B 2P8

Office of the Mayor,  
Corporation of the City of Pt. Coq.  
2272 McAllister Avenue,  
Port Coquitlam, B.C.

Attention City Recreation Dept/City Engineering:

Dear Mayor Traboulay:

Re: The Terry Fox Day Run  
Sunday, September 15, 1985

The purpose of this letter is two fold.

First, the Kinsmen Club of Port Coquitlam request your sponsorship of our Club to once again organize this city's annual Terry Fox Day Run. The Cancer Society of B.C. & the Yukon has set the run date for Sunday, September 15. The format will be very much the same as years past. We would be very pleased to again have yourself attend and participate in the run as in years past. Our Club will be in need of several items from the city, and these things have been listed at the end of the letter.

Second, our Club now formally requests the city to install permanent metal flag holders to existing light poles on the grounds of Hyde Creek, and along the short portion of Laurier Ave to Coast Meridian (map inclosed). The flag pole holder design and size would be the same as those on the light poles on Shaughnessy Ave. We will require a total of twenty holders (10 on the Hyde Creek Grounds, 10 on the street). They would be fixed at a height not less than 24 feet. The reason we are requesting this of the city is: every year the Kinsmen must spend approximately 40 man hours to install/takedown temporary flag holders for the Fox Run. The Kinsmen take great pride in providing a patriotic, ceremonial atmosphere. This would insure the continued use of our Nations flags on our City's most special day. Our surrounding communities will continue to look upon Port Coquitlam, Terry's hometown for leadership in the Marathon of Hope.

"Serving the Communities' Greatest Needs"

ALL CANADIAN SERVICE CLUB

JUL 17 1985

A handwritten signature, likely of a club member, written in dark ink over the date stamp.



## KINSMEN CLUB OF PORT COQUITLAM

THE ASSOCIATION OF KINSMEN CLUBS  
DISTRICT FIVE  
LOWER MAINLAND ZONE  
P.O. BOX 111  
PORT COQUITLAM, B.C. V3C 3V5

We will require from the City Recreation Department, the following items: \* Hyde Creek Center- Sept. 15 4am-4pm  
Gym, Change Rooms, Two Conference Rooms  
Stage, Speakers Podium,  
\*Barracades (10) for Traffic Control  
\*Traffic Cones (100)  
\*Orange Vests for the Route Supervisors  
\*Extra Garbage Cans (8) for Hyde Creek  
\*The Small Portable Stage at Rec. Center  
Two 4'x 8' units for the sound system  
\*Two May Poles -for the start/finish line  
\*The use of washrooms at Cedar & McLean Parks  
\*The May Day Canada Flags (20)  
\*The underpass for Banner Sept. 1-14  
-attention city clerk

The Kinsmen Club of Port Coquitlam would again ask for your assistance in our efforts in sponsoring the run next September. We will again require some police supervision. We are aware that new road work has been done along an area (Dominion to Coast Meridian beside the Lougheed Hwy.) that will effect the run route which we have used in years past.

Enclosed with this letter is a map of the run route. There is also a layout map of the Hyde Creek Site which indicates the Light Poles we wish to have installed with flag pole holders.

Thanking you in advance for your kind cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Derrick Hill  
President,  
The Kinsmen Club of Port Coquitlam

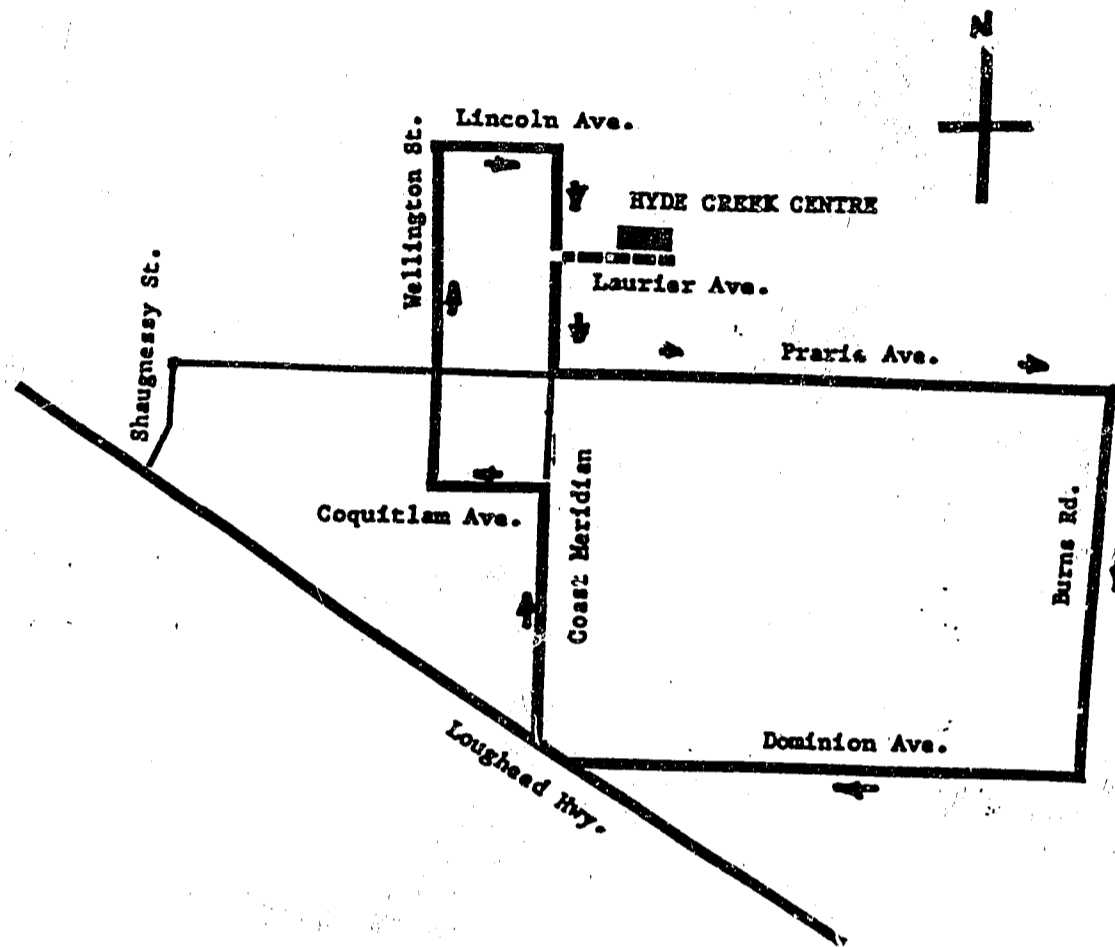
Ron McLeod  
Chairman, The Terry Fox Run  
Kinsmen Club of Port Coquitlam  
2931 Saddlewood Way,  
Pt. Coq., V3B 3K3  
941-8004

Rick Hall  
Co-Chairman, The Terry Fox Run  
Kinsmen Club of Port Coquitlam  
3803 Wellington Street,  
Pt. Coq., V3B 5Z6  
941-4871

JUL 17 1985

"Serving the Communities' Greatest Needs"

ALL CANADIAN SERVICE CLUB



\*NOTE: Only Run Organizers, Press, and Handicaped Participants will be allowed access to Hyde Creek Parking.  
Public Parking available at three shopping centres located at Prairie & Cst. Meridian

JUL 17 1985

1985 Port Coquitlam May Day Report

Attention: Parks and Recreation Committee

It is my intent to provide you with a general overview of this year's festivities in terms of their viability and success. Specific organizational details of various events are available in the existing files and may warrant your perusal if pertinent questions are unanswered in this review.

Traditional Events

Parade  
Crowning  
Silver Chord Choir Tea

All events are scheduled on the same day to attract maximum public response.

Parade: Organized from May Day Office  
Entries: 120  
Judges: Port Coquitlam Toastmistress Club

Briefly, no parade is seen as a success without a strong musical presence. I might, therefore, point out that a parade date must NOT conflict with larger competing festivals. Grade 2/3 Bands are very competitive and enter parades to specifically maintain their high rating, e.g. Simon Fraser Pipe Band performing cost \$500.00. Considering the number of occasions bands are invited to attend and their particular transportation costs, they are in the enviable position of being able to selectively choose where they will go and for how much. We expend \$100.00 per band in an ever competitive market that most often offers more. The Pacificaires specifically refused entry this year as they felt we did not offer enough activities that would interest their members AFTER the parade. They categorically look for festivals that do provide post parade entertainment. In summation, I think we did well to entice as many musical entries as we did, yet without the three Shriner contingents we may have witnessed a quieter parade. Please note that you must schedule the May Day Parade well in advance for organizational purposes, but more emphatically it must not conflict with neighbouring festivals. On that note I can only point out that the second weekend in May, the Mother's Day weekend, is realistically your only choice if you consider my previous statements.

Seasonally - Maple Ridge Festival precedes our May Day and the Cloverdale Rodeo, Pitt Meadows and Hyack Festival immediately follow it. May I respectfully suggest that it would be folly to compete with Cloverdale and New Westminster for parade entrants.

JUL 17 1985

Crowning - As a new sound system for the arena is apparently forthcoming, the general comfort of the listening public should be enhanced.

Silver Chord Tea - A well-entrenched successful event totally organized and hosted by said members.

Special Events

VIP Breakfast  
Fashion Show  
Adult Dance  
Children's Carnival  
Craft Fair

Unequivocal successes!

Fashion show was sold out. Beyond that, the show was a marvellous display of talent and organizational ability courtesy of coordinator Thelka Wright and May Day office personnel. The public will look for it in 1986.

VIP Breakfast well in hand under direction of Audrey Leonard. This was the second year and, in my opinion, a necessary element in hosting visiting guests.

Childrens Carnival - I cannot say enough about the obvious success of the Parks & Recreation Departments sponsorship (Alison Amos Co-ordinator) of this event. It gave a much needed activity to entertain post parade spectators. The whole effort Ms Amos and her staff members put into the event is in no small way, a contributing factor critical to the overall sense of public enjoyment. It was time consuming to organize and the detail given to presentation required much creativity and commitment. Without such effort on behalf of the Parks & Recreation Department, May Day would have been a great deal less entertaining for your general citizenry.

Adult Dance - Apart from stress regarding ticket sales, the dance once again appeared to represent a resounding success. People seem hesitant to pick up tickets prior to the event yet willing to attend at the eleventh hour. 1986 organizers should therefore consider:

- A committee solely committed to ticket sales.

- Cost of ticket re- entertainment and food.

Note: Volunteers under the guidance of Tom & Pat Greer of Port Coquitlam were primarily responsible for organizing said event; no small relief to this office, I might add.

JUL 17 1985

Craft fair - Sponsored by Coquitlam Area Fine Arts Council - Co-ordinator Valerie Gilbert. Extremely well organized and attended.

#### FURTHER NOTES

##### Float

I cannot say too much nor too little about your dilemma in regard to the state of the size of, the calibre of, an annual city float. It is an understatement to point out that finding volunteers to erect such a project is very problematic. Depending on the prevailing political expectations of any council - the float is of either a high or a low priority. Please then consider these points:


- It is for your children to ride on.
- Where and in what context do you want your city float seen?
- The vehicle that pulls the float is an integral part of the design but must be in a reasonable state of repair and cleanliness.
- Fort Langley had their float professionally built for approximately \$15,000.00. The vehicular motor structure is enclosed thus it is self-propelled. The float is stored year round in an enclosed, dry warehouse. The life expectancy of this float according to one source is three years after which the city solicits a new design. I mention this matter only to acquaint you with what some other municipalities do. Where festivals are society operated committees are charged with responsibilities to build and finance said floats.

Sherri Anderson, an employee of the Parks and Recreation Department deserves sole credit for PoCo's civic float in both the 1984 and 1985 May Day Parades. How long we can prevail on her talent and enthusiasm remains to be seen. We do provide a \$200.00 honorarium which seems so inadequate considering the hours she devoted to the project. A small core of dedicated young people helped her but I wonder how long we can expect this type of commitment.

#### Further Comments

- Designate dates for May Day Festivities as soon as possible and resolve conflicts over parade route at the earliest possible moment. I personally do not see how you can avoid selecting the Mothers Day weekend for May Day, as I stated in my comments regarding the parade.

JUL 17 1985



- I might add, at this point, that the creation of an assistant's position for this office was deeply appreciated by myself. Rolande Ross proved to be invaluable. She handled the public graciously and competently and worked hours well beyond her particular contract. I can only hope that the position will be reactivated for the 1986 coordinator knowing how much I came to rely on Ms. Ross for a myriad of responsibilities.

Final Comments

In my 1984 report I stressed that "somewhere, somehow, Council must debate the intrinsic value of a May Day Festival and come to realize what exactly it represents to the community". The debate may be ongoing, but I congratulate 1985 Committee for their support and interest.

Kudos

Once again I feel compelled to end a May Day report commenting on the cooperation given this office by the Parks and Recreation Branch staff members. The enthusiasm displayed by pertinent city employees was critical to the sense of creating a community project. Quite simply put it was a team effort and for that sense of camaraderie I will always be grateful. Thank you for your confidence and the freedom you gave me to function so comfortably.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Fitch,  
1985 May Day Coordinator.

July 17th, 1985

JUL 17 1985

1985 May Day Budget

Expenditures

Labour	\$7,785.90
City Equipment	\$295.30
Material/Supplies	\$5,997.52

Major Items:

Flat Materials	- \$487.00
Warehouse	- \$500.00
Fashion Show	- \$768.75
Dance	- \$2,850.00

Contracted Services	\$10,419.87
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Major Services:

Helen Fitch	- \$5,312.50
Catering	- \$2,033.40
Lighting/F.S.	- \$335.00
Parade	- \$800.00

<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>\$24,498.59</u>
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Revenue

Coquitlam Area Fine Arts	\$100.00
Dance	\$2,418.71
Fashion Show	\$1,627.85
Concession	\$71.96

<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>\$4,218.52</u>
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JUL 17 1985



Upon a given mandate to canvas your citizenry on the feasibility of transferring stewardship of the May Day Festival from municipal control to that of an independent society, I wrote to community groups requesting time to address their membership on said matter. What follows is a brief interpretation of the (responses) reaction to our question. At this point, I make no attempt to editorialize basing my comments on notes made at the time of the presentation.

While I spoke to many small groups, in the interest of brevity I will present the views of four rather large and prominent community groups.

#### TOASTMISTRESSES OF PORT COQUITLAM

They have been actively involved in judging responsibilities re May Day Parade. They present an enthusiastic demeanor in regard to May Day, yet the general tone of discussion was negative in regards to formation of a Society, they perceived the city sponsorship as focuses and non-political in its most literal sense. They seemed fearful of fund raising lobby groups controlling events and public membership inhibited by cliques. One member pointed out that the Pitt Meadows Festive Committee is chaired by the Mayor and private enterprise is solicited for the necessary funds to host such an occasion. The municipality does not finance this festival. The presence of the Mayor as Chairman of a group of volunteers was, in her words, "neutral and organizationally efficient and less complicated". Somehow city involvement at this level was again viewed as unbiased and non-commercial. A few members stated that they would not hesitate to work with the present May Day structure but would be less inclined to do so with a society.

There was an obvious spoken inherent fear of business or civic clubs taking control of this festival and turning it into a self serving "raucous affair" whereby children/family would be less of a priority than making money. There were, however, two members who believed that well considered by-laws of a society should clearly define the feelings of the citizenry. They were not afraid of a Society.

In review, this association favoured continued sponsorship of the May Day Festival by the City.

#### KINSMEN

Initially, in the spirit of levity I presume, the Kinsmen suggested cancelling May Day and to focus on their faltering July 1st activities. It became obvious then that community civic power may be splintered as many groups have their very specific vested interests, Kinsmen admit, as witnessed in their annual report, that their July 1st endeavors are not

JUL 17 1985

meeting with success and was at that time \*(Feb 1895) subject to possible cancellation. Even though they have participated in May Day for many years, many members felt July 1st as a national holiday was more important to the community. Some held the view that societies were cumbersome. They did not, however, express the cautious views of other groups regarding commercialization of May Day. Membership were of many minds regarding a society - there seemed to be no definite reaction.

Kinsmen represent new faces in the community, people unfamiliar with the tradition of May Day. There was more concern expressed re the July 1st event and few strident voices.

P.C.A.A.A.

Because of an ongoing relationship with the City, a relationship of obvious complexity, I feel reticent in over generalizing the Triple A's response to our question. They do know that their All Sports Winter Carnival was not held in 1984. We do know that a Baseball Tournament was scheduled for the same weekend as May Day 1985. This date was undoubtedly selected as a matter of convenience yet it is that clearly shows the vested interests of one group within a community as compared to the whole. At the time I attempted to liaison with the Softball people, of the opinion that the two events could be run in conjunction with each other, co-operatively not competitively. Criticism if May Day was duly noted and responded to. In addressing the P.C.A.A.A. I was aware that the Association is composed of a number of amateur sports groups. Bearing in mind that all have dissimilar fiscal requirements, it may be that individual clubs would be interested in working independently with May Day. In fact at a later meeting with one such group, that assumption proved to be well founded. This group did not want any society regardless of components - they wanted continuous City sponsorship based on the fact that they felt the City would be more attuned to the children of the area.

NOTE:

At this point, the May Day office has received correspondence from P.C.A.A.A. announcing their willingness to discuss the formation of a Society, I must point out that outstanding resource person in this area would be the P.C.A.A.A. treasurer Jean Day. I have attached her 1982 report as May Day co-ordinator for your re-evaluation. Personally, I do not see the success of May day dependent upon the P.C.A.A.A. involvement.

JUL 17 1985

BOY SCOUTS- GIRL GUIDES

I feel safe in saying that this group supports continued City sponsorship activities as children/family are of paramount concern from their viewpoint - not a surprising revelation considering their mandate. If the community theme changes radically to faster paced commercial focus, they could not see a participating role for Boy Scouts.

Civic Groups Presently Involved in May Day Events

Jobs Daughters  
Army Cadets  
Sea Cadets  
Elks Lodge  
Kinsmen  
Coquitlam Breakers

Creative Community Services Assn  
Toastmistresses  
Elementary Schools  
George Pearkes Jr. Secondary  
Wilson Centre Members

Notes:

A copy of the Societies Act has been obtained and is in the May Day office files.

In Summation::

Based on two years of experience re May Day involving countless conversations and meetings with community groups, please let me assure you that the vast number of people are very content with your stewardship of said event. While the present structure demands re-evaluation people seem to believe in the authority the City maintains. The line of command if you wish, is simple and clear, i.e. Coordinator, Parks and Recreation Committee, Mayor. Societies are subject to rules and regulations, splintered directorships, interest groups - all areas of concern to seasoned community workers. On the other hand, with unified leadership can be daring, progressive and creative. As fund-raising must be an integral aspect of such an association they must strike out into the private sector for support. Your child orientated groups are fearful of such commercialization as costs for events are paramount in their eyes. What you have now is a working structure that has met with some success. Accountability is intact. An ever increasing number of community groups are now involved in May Day. If you wish to divest yourselves of fiscal sponsorship, do so, but you must provide the leadership a transition would demand.

JUL 17 1985

Possible Alternate Structures:

1. Port Moody Golden Spikes Day - a society; directors assume responsibility for staging specified events; no paid coordinator.
2. Pitt Meadows Parade - volunteer association; low key family festival.
3. Coquitlam Festival - volunteer association in first year; work in conjunction with All Saints Church Festival Committee; received initial funding grant of \$6,000.00 from City.
4. Hyack Festival - society; maintain events year-round culminating in two week festival in June. Have paid manager and office staff year-round.

\*Details re costing forthcoming for Council presentation.

I will be prepared to answer questions at open Council - Monday, July 22nd.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Fitch,  
1985 May Day Coordinator.

July 17th, 1985

JUL 17 1985

